

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEWS

Rev. Alan T. Jeffries, Minister, First Presbyterian Church  
P.O. Box 472, 1000 Third Street, Moundsville, WV 26041 Phone (845-7155)  
COME AND WORSHIP WITH US EACH SUNDAY  
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship at 10:45 a.m.

**June & July 2026**



**JUNE 2026**

### **Sunday School**

There will be NO Sunday school class during the month of June

### **Bible Study**

Bible Study will continue through the summer months on Monday afternoons at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to join in.

### **Women of Worship**

The next WOW Event will be held on Thursday evening, June 11 with refreshments at 6:00 pm and worship service with Rev. Deborah Messham at 6:30pm. Come and enjoy fellowship with women of all faiths, from throughout our community.

### **Flag Day**

(Sunday, June 14, 2026)

**“And let us never forget that in honoring our flag, we honor the American men and women who have courageously fought and died for it...”**

-President Ronald Reagan

### **Stars and Stripes**

Since the early 1800s various groups have observed a day to display the American flag. Presidents Woodrow Wilson (in 1916) and Calvin Coolidge (in 1927) issued proclamations marking June 14 as National Flag Day. But it wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved June 14 as a day of national observance. President Harry Truman signed it into law.

The American flag has changed designs more than any other flag in the world. In fact, the United States didn't have a standardized flag until 1912! And even after standardization, the flag changed three more times with the addition of new stars representing new states.

### **THE AMERICAN FLAG**

The American Flag is a symbol of patriotism and has changed many times since the first official flag of 1777. The term “Old Glory” is often used to describe the American Flag. The flag has 50 stars representing the 50 states and there are 13 stripes representing the 13 original colonies. On August 3, 1949 President Truman officially declared June 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day.



(Sunday, June 21, 2026)

The worship committee is asking that anyone that would be interested in sharing a funny or memorable story about their dad to be thinking of something to share. You will not be asked to go up front, you can stand at your seat. Please contact Sharon Burke for any questions.

### **The beginning of Father's Day**

One Sunday in 1909, a young woman named Sonora Smart Dodd sat in a pew listening to a sermon honoring mothers. Her mother had died some years before, so her father had raised her by himself. She began to wonder why there wasn't a day to honor fathers.

Sonora decided to arrange for a tribute to be paid to her father at a church in her hometown of Spokane, Washington. The date was June 19, 1910. Many believe that this was the beginning of Father's Day.

Another view is that Dr. Robert Webb, pastor of Central Church, in Fairmont, West Virginia, held a service giving tribute to fathers in 1908. Regardless of which story is the correct one, it is certain that President Calvin Coolidge was the first president to choose a special day to honor fathers. He proclaimed the third Sunday in June as Father's Day in 1924.

### **10 Most Popular Father's Day Sayings**

1. By the time a man realizes that maybe his father was right, he usually has a son who thinks he's wrong.

2. Any man can be a father but it takes someone special to be a dad.
3. A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty.
4. It doesn't matter who my father was; it matters who I remember he was.
5. It is easier for a father to have children than for children to have a real father.
6. A father is a banker provided by nature.
7. You know, fathers just have a way of putting everything together.
8. The greatest gift I ever had came from God; I call him Dad!
9. A father carries pictures where his money used to be.
10. Once a father overheard his son pray: Dear God, make me the kind of man my daddy is. Later that night, the father prayed: Dear God, Make me the kind of man my son wants.

*created by BusyTeacher.org*

### **DAD**

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagle's flight  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
When there was nothing more to add,  
He knew his masterpiece was complete,  
And so He called him Dad.

## **JULY 2026**

### **Independence Day-Celebrating 250 years**

The Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776 at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, following the Second Continental Congress's vote for independence on July 2, 1776. The document, primarily authored by Thomas Jefferson, was proclaimed on July 4, which is now celebrated as Independence Day. Previous major anniversaries include the Centennial in 1876, the Sesquicentennial in 1926, and the Bicentennial in 1976. The Semiquincentennial is the first 250-year milestone in U.S. history

### **Celebrating Triumph of the American Spirit**

On July 4, 2026 America will celebrate the most important milestone in our country's history—250 years of American Independence. “With a single sheet of parchment & 56 signatures, America began the greatest political journey in human history,” said President Trump of this momentous anniversary.

### **Sunday School**

There will be NO Sunday school class during the month of July.

### **Loose offering**

The loose offering is collected on the second Sunday of each month and will be given to the Deacons to help with their projects.

### **Office Closed**

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 6 in observance of Independence Day.

## **Freedom**

Each one of us is born most free  
And we alone can choose  
To do what God would have us do,  
To use what God would use.

Or, we are also free to seek  
The proud and selfish way--  
a life where other gods come first  
To reign and hold full sway.

But when we follow where Christ leads,  
We find that freedom's place  
Is really in God's Will for us,  
And we have chosen GRACE!  
-Peggy Ferrell, *Prayers and Poems*

## **American independence**

John Adams, who became America's second president, was so elated when the United States was about to celebrate independence from England that he wrote:

“It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward, forevermore.”

## **GOD BLESS AMERICA**

### **This Land of Mine**

Virginia Katherine Oliver

This land of mine has beauty  
This land of mine has pride  
This land of mine rings with joy  
Through every countryside  
This land began in greatness  
As our forefathers knew  
And we have a heritage  
Left by those faithful few  
Born of prayer and effort  
Too priceless to define  
This country came to be  
This blessed land of mine.